

## THE REFUNDING BILL

PASSES THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

WITHOUT A DISSENTING VOTE.

Bill Fighting for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. To Secure Uniformity in Legislation.

The House of Delegates was called to order by Speaker Cardwell at noon yesterday. No minister being present the proceedings of the body had to be commenced without prayer.

Leave of absence was granted to the following members: Mr. Hundon of Fauquier, two days; Mr. Petty of Page, three days; Mr. Craft of Scott, four days; Mr. Farney of Rockingham, three days.

Mr. Saunders, of Franklin, introduced a resolution providing that that part of Governor McKinney's message which relates to the criminal expenses be referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice to report by bill or otherwise. The resolution was first.

The first business taken up was the motion made by Speaker Cardwell on Saturday, providing that a reconsideration of the vote by which the amendment was referred to order by Mr. Gregory, of Chesterfield, in Senate Bill No. 25, extending the powers of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The amendment requires the officers of the society to give bonds in the sum of \$1,000, and it holds them liable for any damages caused by their public affairs.

Hoping for a favorable answer to my petition, I sign myself in all sincerity and truth.

## Notes.

The Committee on Privileges and Elections will meet this morning at the office of Cabell & Cabell, Tenth and Main streets, and consider the bill introduced by Mr. Nicol, which seeks to prevent bribery and fraud at primary elections.

Shorts received that if any animal or vehicle on which a lien is placed in sold after the discharging of the lien on an animal or vehicle, the remainder of the proceeds shall be paid over to the owner.

Mrs. Gregory, of Chesterfield, opposed the bill, and took the ground that the bond of \$100 was too small.

Mr. Mason, of King George, suggested that the bond be made \$500, and Mr. Nicol agreed to this amendment.

Judge Sheeler, of Smyth, thought the bill would work hardship on owners of animals who loan them out and receive them afterwards in an injured condition.

Mr. Gibson, of Culpeper, spoke at some length against the proposed measure, but finally gave way to Mr. Mason of Albemarle, who obtained unanimous consent to postpone the calendar in order to take up the Senate bill while it is still outstanding of the State debt. This was agreed to, and another long discussion ensued.

Mr. Gregory, of Chesterfield, wanted to have the bill go over in order to become more familiar with its provisions, and explained his position which was in opposition to the bill. In connection with the motion he took occasion to lecture the House on politics, and was promptly denounced by Mr. Gibson of Culpeper, who thought the best the Populists could do was to keep quiet and let the Democrats pass their bills.

## The Bill Passed.

Mr. Saunders offered an amendment which provides that depositors shall pay to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund three and a half per cent, when they receive their distributive shares of the new issue of bonds.

Mr. Mason, Duncanson, Cooke, Pilcher, and Johnson opposed the amendment, which was finally voted down.

Mr. Nicol then offered an amendment providing that the new bonds be the same as those issued under the act of February 29, 1882, and bear the same date. This amendment was also defeated. The bill was then adopted without a dissenting vote.

Mr. Gregory explained that he would vote for the bill because he wanted to see the coupons killed, but that he did not agree with the provisions of the measure.

## Bills Referred.

The following bills were introduced and referred to the proper committees:

By Mr. Thomas: To enlarge the powers of the Roanoke Street Railroad Company.

By Mr. Cabell: To authorize the Governor to appoint a board of commissioners for the promotion of uniformity of legislation in the United States. The bill provides that within thirty days after the passage of the act the Governor shall appoint three commissioners, to be called the "Commissioners for the Promotion of Uniformity of Legislation in the United States." These commissioners shall examine the subjects of marriage and divorce, insolvent debtors, national securities, debts, debts and distribution of property, acknowledgement of deeds, execution and probate of wills, and other subjects on which uniformity is desirable; to ascertain the best means to effect uniformity in the laws of the States, and to represent the State of Virginia in conventions of like commissions heretofore appointed to or to be appointed by other States to consider and draft a form of law to be submitted for approval and adoption of the several States, and to devise and recommend such other course of action as shall best accomplish the purpose of the act. The term of office of said commissioners shall be two years.

## Remedying an Absurdity.

By Mr. Logan: To amend and re-enact section 3765 of the Code of 1882. The section in question provides how the entering or dwelling hours or other hours, vessels or persons in the night with intent to commit murder, robbery, etc., shall be punished. The present law provides only for such punishment in counties, while the bill seeks to include the cities.

By Mr. Priddy: To amend an act approved April 4, 1882, entitled "An act to incorporate the town of Chase City, in the county of Mecklenburg, as approved May 21, 1882, as amended by an act approved January 31, 1883."

The production of "The Highest Bidder" for the benefit of the Rosemary library has been postponed to February 6th on account of the sickness of two of those who will take part in the play.

In a list of names of the executive committee of the "Wednesday Club," in an article on "Our Choral Society" in Sunday's issue, the name of Michael B. Leonard was unintentionally omitted.

Miss Emma Wilder left Sunday night for Winston, N. C., where she will make her future home. Miss Wilder has a host of friends in this city who will learn of her departure with much regret.

William Morris (colored) was arrested yesterday and confined in the First station charged with trespassing upon the premises of his father (William Morris, Sr.) and threatening his life, and also with attempting to strike his mother, Francis Morris.

A still alarm of fire was turned in early yesterday morning, caused by a supposed burglar in the store of Mr. C. A. Mercer, No. 625 east Main street. There was a lot of smoke in the store from a stove next door, but no fire. The only damage was breaking the door open.

Friday evening, as Miss Martha Hobson was walking to her home, at the corner of Madison and Franklin streets, she slipped and fell on the icy pavement on Franklin street, injuring her hip. She was reported yesterday to be getting along as well as could be expected.

The last addendum of respect was paid to Mr. E. H. Bellmon Sunday afternoon at St. Peter's Cathedral. The floral designs were simple and elegant. The remains were placed temporarily in the vault kindly tendered by Mr. and Mrs. Daubencourt at Oakwood Cemetery.

No. 24, introduced by Mr. Cox, of Grayson. To provide for locating, making, repairing and working public roads, repairing and building bridges in the county of Grayson.

No. 25, introduced by Speaker Cardwell. To extend the powers of the board of supervisors of Hanover county with reference to keeping in order the public roads of said county, and ratify and make valid

any contract or purchases heretofore made by said board for the purposes indicated in this act.

## Wants to Vote.

A petition was received in the House yesterday from Orra Langhorne, of Culpeper, who is asking for the privilege of suffrage. The petition, which is addressed to the members of the General Assembly, reads as follows:

I, Orra Langhorne, of Culpeper county, Va., do hereby petition for the right of suffrage in State and United States elections. If there is not now any court or body which can bestow upon me this right, I now and hereby request that such an act will be passed by the Assembly, so as will create such power or authority.

1 petition for my enfranchisement from political disability because I am over twenty-one years of age. I can read and write. I am neither an idiot, a pauper, nor insane. I have committed no crime. I desire the right of suffrage in the land of my birth because I am taxed without representation. I own property in Virginia which would increase in value but for the excise roads maintained in the Commonwealth. I am deeply interested in the education of the young of the State, but see an inefficient public school system in operation, while women are excluded from our higher institutions of learning, which their property is taxed to support.

Bills Introduced.

The following bills were introduced and referred to the appropriate committees:

By Senator Walton: To allow a pension to Ellen C. Holler, of Shenandoah county.

By Senator Buchanan: To incorporate the town of Salyersville, in Smyth and Washington counties.

By Senator Southall: To relieve R. C. Clay from the payment of a fine imposed by the County Court of Amelia county.

By Senator Houston: To amend the Code in relation to probate of wills.

By Senator Williams (by request): To incorporate the town of Chase City, in Mecklenburg county.

By Senator Barnes: To provide for the protection and propagation of game and fish.

By Senator McIlwaine: Imposing upon railroads corporation, or any receiver, trustee, lessee, mortgages, or other person operating a railroad in the State of Virginia liability for damages or injury sustained by any person, including employees of such corporation in consequence of the negligence or wilful wrong of any officers, agents, etc., of said corporation, lessor, receiver, or mortgagee.

This bill has met with the determined opposition of the railroads, as has been attested by the presence of railroad officials when it was being considered.

By Senator Miller: To provide for the protection and propagation of game and fish to provide a fund therefor.

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